

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1001

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: REACTION TO CANADIAN OIL POLICY MEASURES

REF: DEPTTEL 177848 SEPT 7

1) FRIDAY EVENING WINNIPEG FREE PRESS DEVOTED ENTIRE EDITORIAL COLUMN TO OIL DEVELOPMENTS IN TWO SEPARATE EDITORIALS. FIRST DESCRIBED GOVERNMENT ANTI INFLATION POLICY AS "CLUTTER OF LOOSE STRINGS". REFERRING TO OIL LINE EXTENSION TO MONTREAL PAPER SAYS NO ASSURANCE THAT EXTENSION WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO PROVINCES OR THAT LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS CAN BE SOLVED. EDITORIAL NOTED PREMIER BOURASSAS PLANS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SUPER PORT AND REFINERIES AND HIS CERTAIN OPPOSITON TO TRUDEAU'S PROPOSAL TO LIMIT QUEBEC TO ALBERTA'S OIL. WHAT WILL BE EFFECT OF THIS CONFRONTATION BETWEEN PREMIER AND PRIME MINISTER?

2) SECOND EDITORIAL DEALING WITH MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS WARNS THE U.S. OF DANGER OF FLOODING SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT WITH ARMAMENTS. WITH RETURN OF YOUNG ARMY OFFICERS TRAINED IN U.S. THERE IS CLEAR DANGER THAT WITH NEW WEAPONS IN THEIR HANDS THEY MAY TOPPLE CONSERVATIVE MONARCHS AND JOIN THE RADICALS. THESE ARE RISKS THAT WASHINGTON IS TAKING LIGHT HEARTEDLY.

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3) NO EDITORIAL COMMENT EVENING TRIBUNE. BUT EDITORIAL PAGE
FEATURES ARTICLE BY BILL FIX, DATELINED QUEBEC CITY, STRESSING
SHOCK OF QUEBEC OFFICIALS OVER FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS OIL LINE
PROPOSALS. FOX QUOTES QUEBEC OFFICIALS AS AGREEING ALBERTA
OIL MAY BE A MORE SECURE SOURCE BUT ALSO MORE EXPENSIVE.
KELLY

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